



189

DIGITAL  
EDITION

McFARLANE  
PORTACIO  
HOLGUIN

# SPAWN®

ENDGAME PART FIVE



Whit 28

McFARLANE

jin h29



Al Simmons was a hit man for the U.S. government until his C.O. Jason Wynn, betrayed him and a mysterious assassin ended Al's life. At the moment of his death, Al was offered a deal by the demon Malebolgia and returned to Earth as Spawn, a creature with supernatural powers born in Hell.

Todd McFarlane and Image Comics Present

## ENDGAME PART 5



### PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

At the exact moment of Al Simmons' death, a young man wakes up in a hospital after years in a coma. Dubbed Patient 47, he is told his name is Jim Downing, but has no memory of his previous life. While disturbing visions haunt Jim, the attending doctors marvel at the supernatural pace of his recovery.

A young nurse, Sara, confesses that she has prayed over Jim nightly, hoping God would send her a sign by healing him. A trio of detectives wonders why a prominent attorney took his own life, and a mysterious intermediary makes arrangements for a super-powered thug to abduct Patient 47.

The "Extractor" bursts through the hospital wall, knocking Sarah unconscious. In the melee, the hospital is set on fire. As emergency services evacuate the building, the Extractor corners Jim. Under stress, a dark power dwelling inside of Jim manifests itself and vaporizes his attacker. Later, a dazed Jim stumbles out of the building and collapses.

In the aftermath of the hospital fire, confusion reigns as patients are relocated to other facilities. Meanwhile, the Clown begins to set his plan in motion. Sara lets Jim crash at her place, and as he tries to piece together what happened at the hospital, the dark power welling inside him makes itself known once again.

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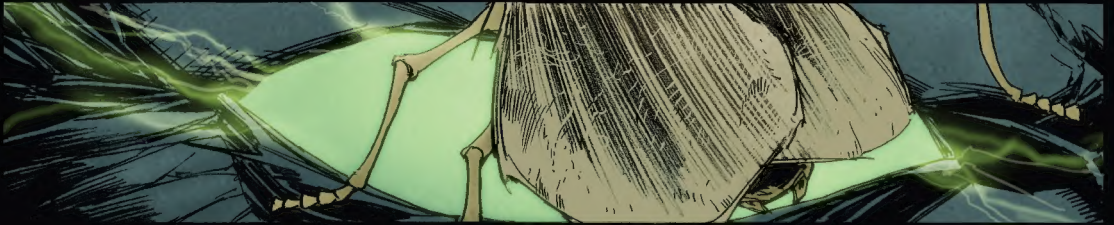
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Greenwich, Connecticut



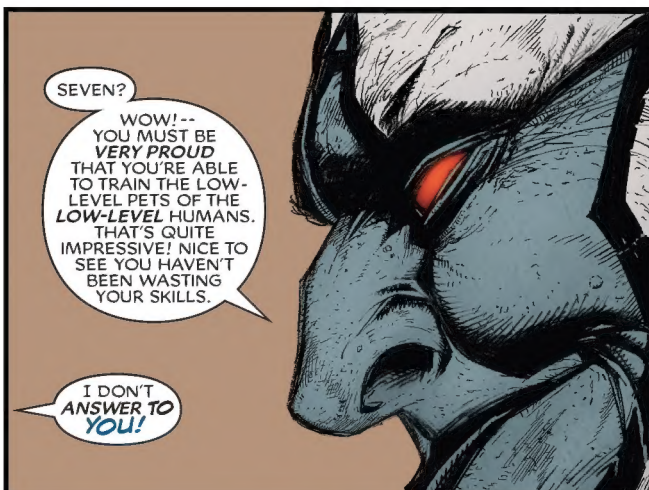








SEVEN.



SEVEN?

WOW!--  
YOU MUST BE  
**VERY PROUD**  
THAT YOU'RE ABLE  
TO TRAIN THE LOW-  
LEVEL PETS OF THE  
**LOW-LEVEL HUMANS.**  
THAT'S QUITE  
IMPRESSIVE! NICE TO  
SEE YOU HAVEN'T  
BEEN WASTING  
YOUR SKILLS.

I DON'T  
ANSWER TO  
**YOU!**



WELL,  
THAT'S WHY  
I'M HERE,  
ACTUALLY. I'M  
ABOUT TO  
CHANGE  
THAT.



YOU'RE  
OUT OF YOUR  
MIND.



SADLY,  
THAT'S NO  
LONGER  
TRUE.



BECAUSE  
OUR MOMENT IS  
**HERE!** RIGHT NOW!  
AND THE WINDOW  
OF OPPORTUNITY  
ISN'T GOING TO LAST  
VERY LONG. THERE'S  
BEEN A SHIFT IN THE  
BALANCE OF THINGS.  
A **VOID** HAS OPENED  
UP AND I INTEND  
TO **FILL IT!**

AND RIGHT  
NOW, I HAVE  
PERFECT CLARITY  
AS TO WHAT  
NEEDS TO GET  
DONE. BUT I CAN'T  
DO IT ALONE. SO  
YOU'RE GOING TO  
HELP ME. YOU  
AND A BUNCH  
OF OTHERS.


YEAH?  
WHY IS  
THAT?

YOU IDIOT!  
MALEBOLGIA'S  
GONE. HE DIED  
YEARS AGO. IF  
THERE WAS A  
CHANCE FOR ANY-  
ONE TO MAKE A  
PLAY, IT WAS THEN!  
YOU'RE WAY  
**BEHIND THE CURVE**  
ON THIS ONE.  
MAMMON AND  
OTHERS HAVE  
ALREADY BEAT  
YOU TO IT.

PERHAPS.

BUT THEIR  
PATH WASN'T  
ALWAYS CLEAR  
OF OBSTACLES.  
**I THINK IT IS  
NOW.** THERE'S  
A **PIECE** OF  
THE PUZZLE  
THEY WERE  
MISSING.

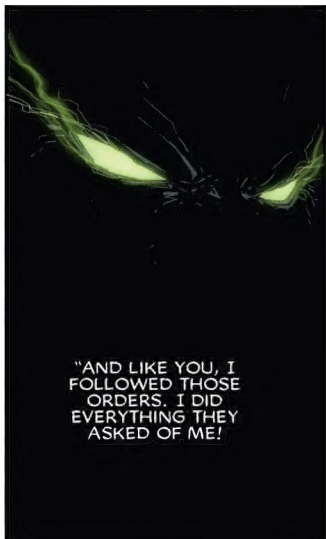




"AND THAT PIECE WILL HAVE A  
HUGE RIPPLE EFFECT ALL THE  
WAY DOWN TO THE *ELDERS*."



"YOU SEE, YEARS  
AGO THEY PLANTED  
A WARRIOR ON THIS  
PLANET. ONE THAT I  
WAS SUPPOSED TO  
TRAIN FOR THEM.  
BECAUSE, LIKE YOU,  
I'D BEEN GIVEN MY  
ORDERS TOO."



"AND LIKE YOU, I  
FOLLOWED THOSE  
ORDERS. I DID  
EVERYTHING THEY  
ASKED OF ME!"



"EVEN AFTER  
MALEBOLGIA'S MURDER,  
I *CONTINUED* TO  
TRAIN THEIR SOLDIER--  
THOUGH NO ONE  
WANTED TO GUIDE US  
AFTER OUR MASTER'S  
DEATH."

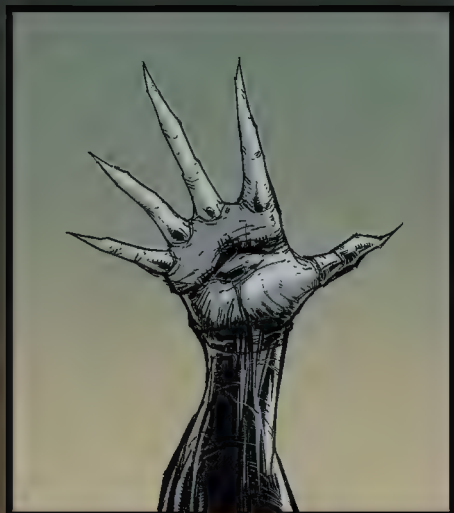


"BUT NOW THEIR WARRIOR'S  
GONE! VANISHED! AND  
WE WON'T SEE HIS KIND  
AGAIN FOR ANOTHER TWO  
HUNDRED YEARS.



"AND BY THE  
TIME THEY  
BECOME AWARE  
OF THIS FACT, MY  
PLAN WILL HAVE  
ALREADY BEEN  
PUT INTO  
MOTION."





"I DON'T SEE WHAT ANY OF THAT HAS TO DO WITH ME. I'VE ALREADY MOVED ON."

"MOVED ON? NO! YOU MOVED *AWAY*... FROM EVERYTHING YOU WERE MEANT TO BE. OUR DUTY IS TO PROTECT AND DELIVER OUR BIRTHPLACE TO *ULTIMATE* VICTORY."



"HEAVEN AND EARTH HAVE MADE *WAY* TOO MUCH PROGRESS OF LATE. WE NEED TO TURN BACK THAT TIDE, EVEN IF OUR OWN LEADERS HAVE LOST SIGHT OF THAT. IF THEY DON'T WANT TO FIGHT THIS WAR *THEN WE WILL*."

"*IMPOSSIBLE*. THEY'LL NEVER ALLOW THAT TO HAPPEN."

"I DON'T INTEND ON ASKING THEIR PERMISSION."





"BECAUSE AFTER MALEBOLGIA DIED, THEY TOOK THEIR EYE OFF THE BALL. FORGETTING EVERY AGENT THEY'VE EVER SENT TO EARTH. THEY CUT US LOOSE. IGNORED US. AND BECAUSE OF THAT, WE'RE ALL IN **FREE FALL**."

"SO WE HAVE A CHOICE NOW-- EITHER WE CHOOSE TO GO OUR SEPARATE WAYS, CONTINUING TO SEGREGATE OURSELVES FROM ONE ANOTHER--WHICH IN TIME WILL LEAD US TO TURNING ON ONE ANOTHER-- OR WE CAN BAND TOGETHER

"AS A GROUP WE CAN AT LEAST TRY TO PROTECT WHAT'S RIGHTFULLY OURS. BUT TO DO THAT, WE HAVE TO STOP THE **BACK SLIDING** WE'VE ALL BEGUN. CONTROLLING OUR FATE WON'T COME BY INDULGING IN MAN'S TEMPTATIONS. OUR GOAL ISN'T TO TRY AND **BE LIKE THEM**... IT'S TO TRY AND **LORD OVER THEM**."

"OR WE CAN SIMPLY STAND BY AND WAIT UNTIL THE **ELDERS** SEND DOWN THEIR AGENDAS AGAIN, AND RECRUIT US BACK INTO THEIR SELF-SERVING MISSION. AND WHEN THAT HAPPENS, NONE OF US WILL BE GIVEN A CHOICE."

"JUST LIKE EVERY PAST WAR, ANYONE TRYING TO DEFEY THEM HAD THEIR HOUSES BURNED AND THEIR FAMILIES **SLAUGHTERED**. THEN EACH TRAITOR WAS BLUDGEONED TO DEATH."

"AND THEY'LL DO THE SAME AGAIN THING..."





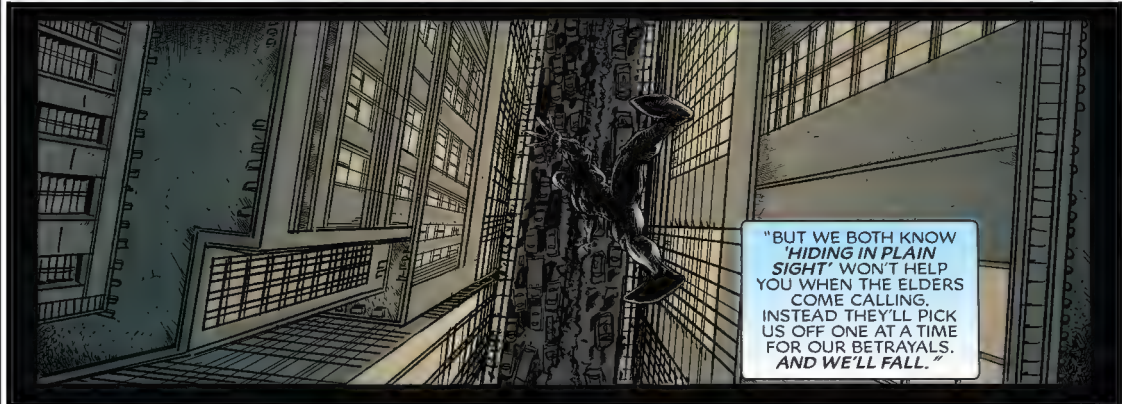
"...BECAUSE WHEN  
PUSH COMES TO  
SHOVE--THEY KNOW  
WE'RE ALL AFRAID  
OF THEM.



"AND BY THAT LOOK IN  
YOUR EYES THEY'D BE  
RIGHT. BUT GUYS LIKE YOU  
DON'T THINK YOU'RE  
SCARED--INSTEAD, YOU  
THINK YOU'VE GOT A PLAN.  
**CONVINCING YOURSELF**  
THAT SOMEHOW YOU'LL  
BE THE ONE TO SURVIVE.



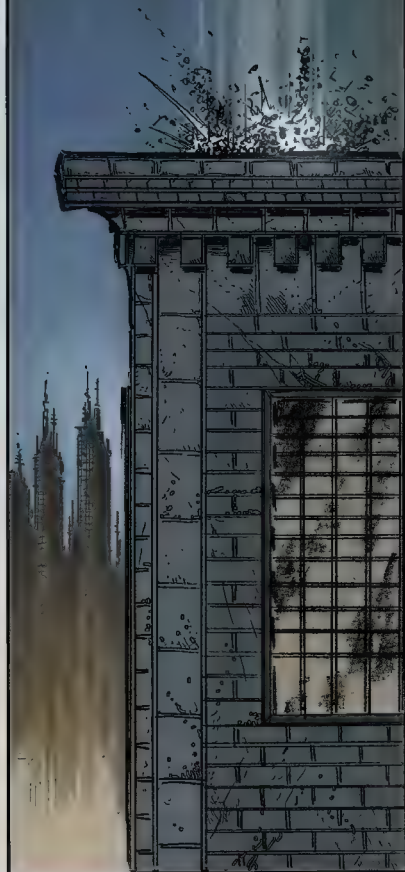
"SO YOU START TO ACT  
AND LOOK AND BEHAVE  
LIKE SOMETHING YOU'RE  
NOT. WHY? BECAUSE IF YOU  
PRETEND TO BE A HUMAN,  
THEN YOU THINK THAT THEIR  
NEW WARRIORS WILL THINK  
YOU **ARE** A HUMAN.



"BUT WE BOTH KNOW  
**'HIDING IN PLAIN  
SIGHT'** WON'T HELP  
YOU WHEN THE ELDERS  
COME CALLING.  
INSTEAD THEY'LL PICK  
US OFF ONE AT A TIME  
FOR OUR BETRAYALS.  
**AND WE'LL FALL."**



"EACH AND EVERY  
ONE OF US WILL  
EVENTUALLY *FALL*."



"TEMPORARILY CREATING  
A HOLE THAT HEAVEN  
WILL EXPLOIT TO THEIR  
ADVANTAGE."



"SO AS MUCH AS I MIGHT  
DISPISE OUR CREATORS,  
THE THOUGHT OF HEAVEN  
GETTING THE JUMP ON US,  
BECAUSE OUR LEADERS  
HAVE THEIR HEADS UP  
THEIR ASSES, ANGERS ME  
EVEN MORE!"



"YOU'RE TALKING  
ABOUT A SUICIDE  
MISSION, CLOWN.  
YOU CAN'T TAKE ON  
HEAVEN AND HELL  
AT THE SAME TIME.  
NO ONE'S THAT  
CRAZY!"



"YOU'RE RIGHT. I CAN'T  
TAKE THEM BOTH ON...  
NOT ALONE. AT LEAST,  
WHICH IS WHY I'M HERE  
TONIGHT. YOU'RE GOING  
TO JOIN ME."

"WHAT  
HAPPENED?"



"BECAUSE I'VE  
HEARD ABOUT  
YOUR NATURAL-  
BORN SKILLS MANY  
TIMES. THOSE WILL  
COME IN HANDY."

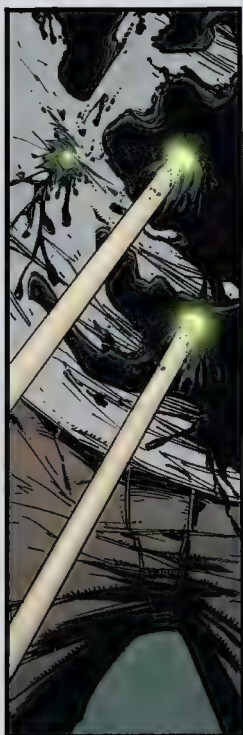


"BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY,  
YOU'VE IMMERSSED YOURSELF  
IN MANKIND LONG ENOUGH  
THAT I'M BANKING ON YOU  
BEING ABLE TO UNDERSTAND  
THEIR TRUE NATURE."

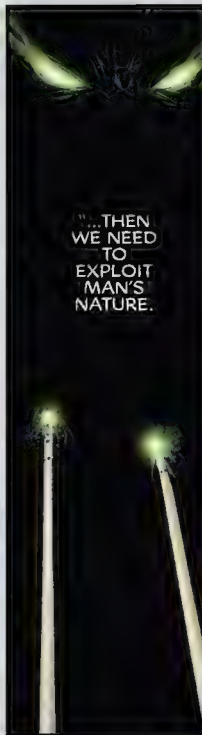




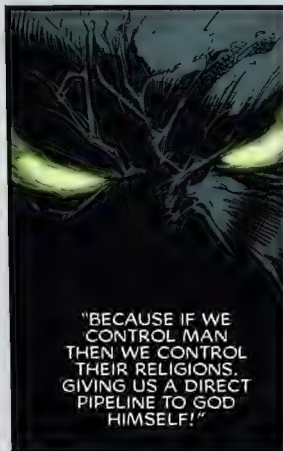
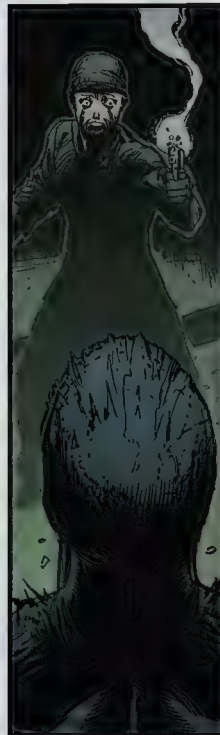
"AND EVERY-  
THING THEY'RE  
CAPABLE OF."



"IF HEAVEN  
IS GOING  
TO EXPLOIT  
HELL'S  
NATURE..."



"...THEN  
WE NEED  
TO  
EXPLOIT  
MAN'S  
NATURE."



"BECAUSE IF WE  
CONTROL MAN  
THEN WE CONTROL  
THEIR RELIGIONS.  
GIVING US A DIRECT  
PIPELINE TO GOD  
HIMSELF!"





"IMAGINE WHAT WE'D  
ACCOMPLISH IF WE  
PENETRATED THE GATES  
OF HEAVEN!

"EVERYTHING THEN  
WOULD *FINALLY*  
BE *OURS!*



"BUT THAT GLORIOUS  
MOMENT BEGINS ONE  
SMALL STEP AT A  
TIME. THE FIRST OF  
WHICH IS TAKING  
ADVANTAGE OF THE  
*VOID* THAT THEIR  
SPAWN RECENTLY  
CREATED FOR US.



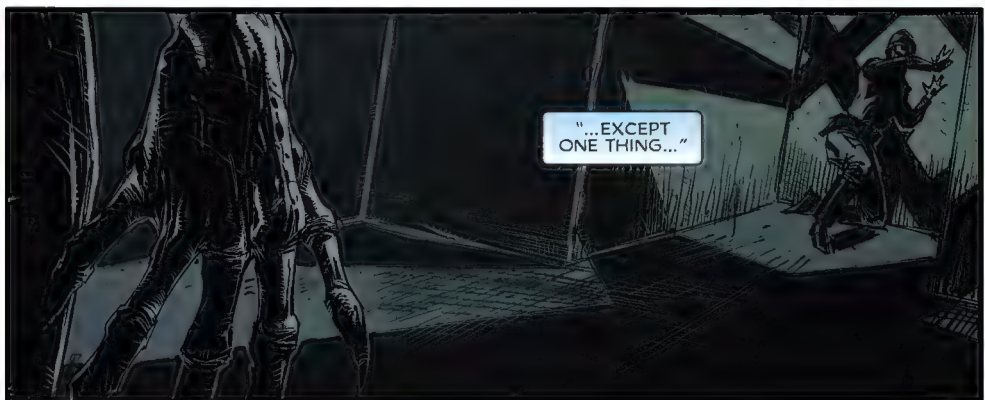
"WITH HIM OUT  
OF THE PICTURE,  
THERE'S *NOTHING*  
TO STOP US.

"NOTHING  
TO BLOCK  
OUR PATH."



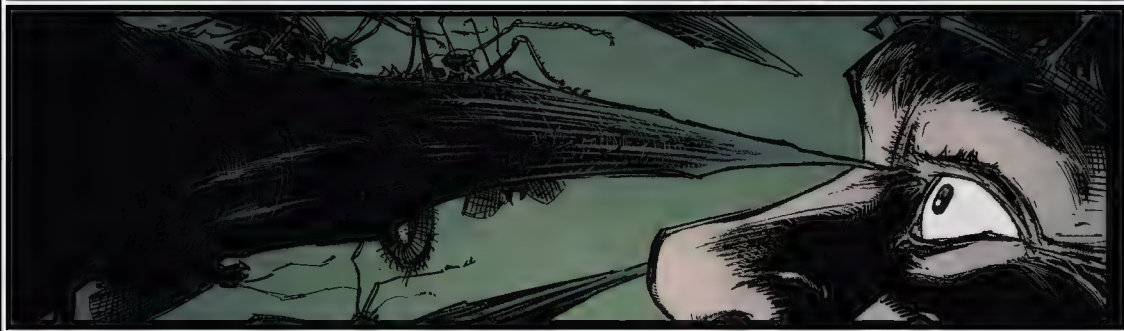


"NOTHING TO  
HOLD US BACK..."



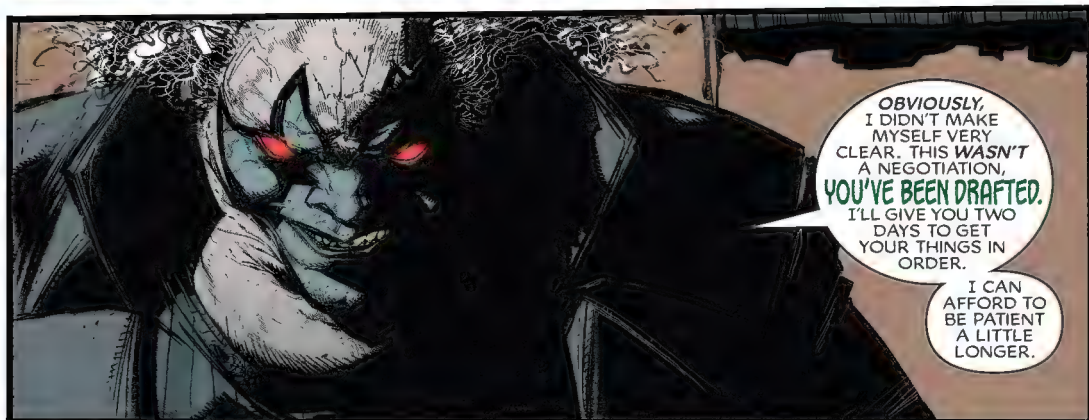
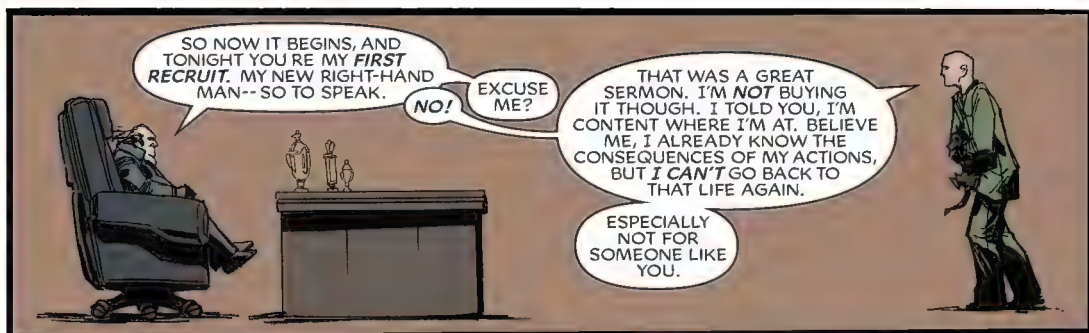
"...EXCEPT  
ONE THING..."



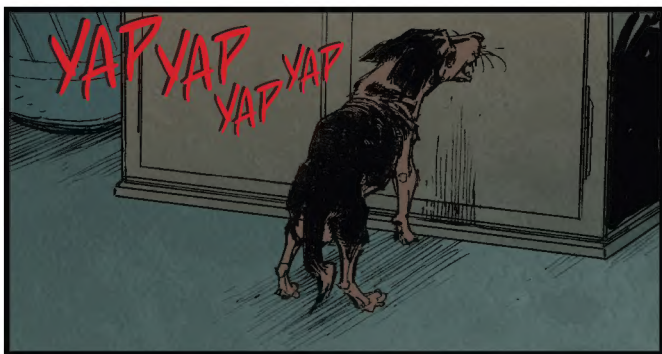
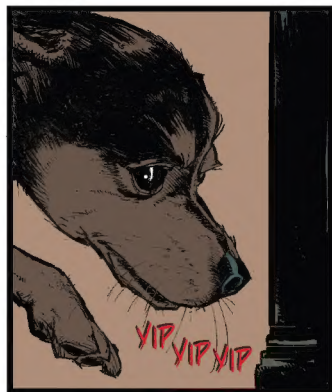


"...AND THAT'S  
FEAR  
**ITSELF!!**"

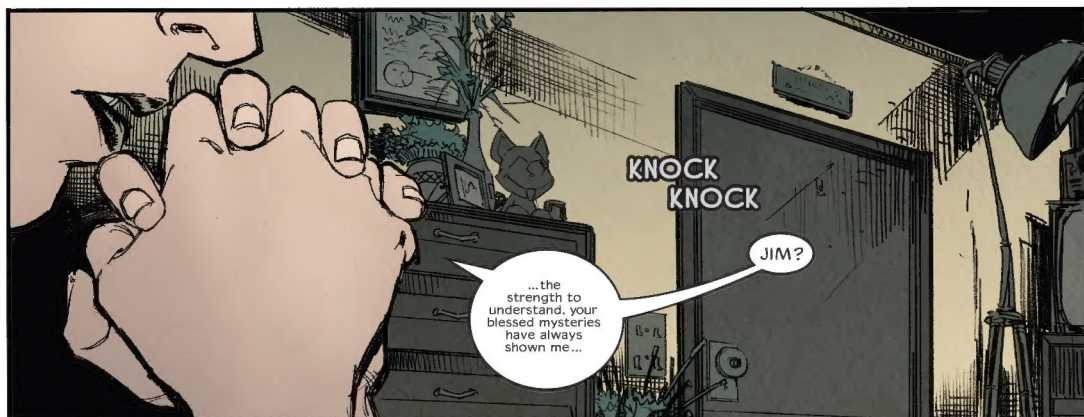














"EVERYTHING'S  
PERFECT."

I TOOK  
AN INVENTORY  
BEFORE YOU  
ARRIVED. WE'VE GOT  
SEVEN DEAD, *ALL* OF  
WHOM LOOK LIKE THEY  
WENT THROUGH A *PAPER  
SHREDDER*. ANOTHER  
HALF DOZEN WOUNDED.  
THIRTY KILOS OF UNCUT  
COKE, ALONG WITH  
HOLES THE SIZE OF  
A SMALL METEOR,  
RIPPING THROUGH  
THE *ENTIRE*  
BUILDING.

WITNESSES?

SHOCKINGLY,  
NO ONE'S WILLING  
TO TALK.

*CHRIST!*  
I'M GETTING  
TOO OLD FOR  
THIS CRAP.

YOU  
THINKING  
WHAT I'M  
THINKING?



SEEMS  
LIKE  
DEJA VU  
ALL OVER  
AGAIN?

MY  
SENTIMENTS  
EXACTLY,  
SIR.







Tyrant  
Lizard  
King

EMPIRE